

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 EUR-10 NSC-10 NSCE-00 AEC-05

ACDA-10 L-02 MC-02 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 SCEM-01 SCI-03 AF-04 IO-03 EB-03

COME-00 PRS-01 RSR-01 /090 W
----- 082988

R 290845 Z JUN 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO / SECSTATE WASHDC 3324

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1953

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECM

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN- LIBYAN NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

REF: CAIRO 1215, 25 AUGUST 1972

1. ON 28 JUNE, MAHER W. ANABTAWI, WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC DISTRICT MANAGER FOR POWER SYSTEMS, AFRICA, CALLED ON USINT. HE STATED THAT PLANS HAVE BEEN FINALIZED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT BY EGYPT AND LIBYA. THE PLANT, OF 500 MW CAPACITY, WILL BE LOCATED AT SIDI KRIER SOME 40 KILOMETERS WEST OF ALEXANDRIA ON THE COAST. INITIALLY THE PLANT WILL FEED INTO THE EGYPTIAN ELECTRIC POWER GRID, AND EVENTUALL A 500 KVA TRANSMISSION LINE WILL BE BUILT BETWEEN SIDI KRIER AND BENGHAZI. HARD CURRENCY COSTS WILL BE COVERED BY LIBYA, AND EGYPT WILL PROVIDE ALL LOCAL CURRENCY REQUIREMENTS.

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2. FINAL SPECIFICATIONS WILL BE READY AT THE " END OF JULY." BIDDING ON THE PLANT WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY AND LIMITED TO FIVE PARTICIPANTS; WESTINGHOUSE, SIEMENS/ AEG, THE SOVIET UNION, SWEDEN AND FRANCE. ANABTAWI WAS NOT INFORMED OF THE IDENTITIES OF THE FRENCH AND SWEDISH FIRMS.

3. ON 27 JUNE ANABTAWI MET WITH BOTH THE EGYPTIAN MINISTER OF ELECTRIC POWER, AHMAD SULTAN, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EGYPTIAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, MOHAMMAD ABDEL MA' BUD AL- GEBAYLI, IN ORDER TO PASS TECHNICAL LITERATURE ON WESTINGHOUSE NUCLEAR GENERATION EQUIPMENT. ANABTAWI DID SO UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE WESTINGHOUSE OFFICE IN WASHINGTON WHICH HE SAID HAD OBTAINED CLEARANCE FROM THE STATE DEPT.

4. SULTAN STATED THAT EGYPT IS WILLING TO SIGN BOTH THE IAEA SAFEGUARD AGREEMENT AND A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH USG ON CIVIL USES OF ATOMIC POWER, PROVIDED THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS SIMILAR TO BILATERAL AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN USG AND INDIA. SULTAN MOST ANXIOUS TO SEE COPY OF AGREEMENT AND IF USG WILLING TO SIGN SIMILAR AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT, HE COULD SEE NO OBSTACLE TO EARLY RATIFICATION. ACCORDING TO ANABTAWI, THIS IS SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN EGYPTIAN POSITION. PREVIOUSLY EGYPT REFUSED SIGN SUCH AGREEMENTS UNLESS SIMILAR AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY ISRAEL. THIS NO LONGER PRECONDITION.

5. AL- GEBAYLI CONFIRMED SULTAN' S STATEMENTS AND FURTHER URGED WESTINGHOUSE PARTICIPATION IN STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS. HE SAID GOE WOULD PREFER WESTINGHOUSE BECAUSE THEY HAD HAD GOOD EXPERIENCE WITH WESTINGHOUSE IN CONNECTION WITH CAIRO WEST POWER PLANT.

6. ANABTAWI FLYING TO AMMAN AFTERNOON 28 JUNE. HE WILL CONTACT WESTINGHOUSE OFFICE WASHINGTON AND ASK THAT THEY CONTACT DEPT. USINT GAVE COPY OF AUGUST 8, 1963 AGREEMENT BETWEEN USG AND INDIA TO ANABTAWI FOR BACKGROUND USE ONLY. ANABTAWI WILL MAKE NO FURTHER CONFIDENTIAL

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APPROACHES TO GOE UNTIL INSTRUCTED BY HIS HOME OFFICE.

7. PLEASE ADVISE IF USG PREPARED TO ENTER INTO BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH GOE SIMILAR TO USG/ GOI AGREEMENT ON CIVIL USES OF ATOMIC POWER.
WILEY

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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